



**DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY**

DETROIT DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS

BOX 1027

DETROIT, MICHIGAN 48231-1027

IN REPLY REFER TO

March 13, 2009

Dear Great Lakes Navigation Stakeholder:

Please join us and other Great Lakes stakeholders for the next Great Lakes Navigation Stakeholder Meeting to be held in Washington D.C. on Wednesday, April 1, 2009. The location and timing of the meeting were set to coincide with a Great Lakes Maritime Task Force event the following day to ease people's travel schedules. This meeting will focus on our FY09 program and we will also be gathering your thoughts on system needs for FY2011.

This is a unique year with many exciting opportunities and challenges. Open, two-way communication between the Corps and stakeholders is critical to our success. We have had excellent response to our stakeholder meetings over the past few years and we look forward to continuing this important dialogue. At this meeting, we will lay out our FY09 Navigation program on the Great Lakes, to include the work included in the recently passed FY09 Omnibus Bill and work that will be done under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009. In the next few months, we will build our FY2011 budget so we also want to take this opportunity to solicit your comments on system needs and priorities.

The Great Lakes Navigation Stakeholder Meeting will be held on April 1 from 1:00 to 5:00 p.m. EDT. For those unable to attend the meeting in person, call-in capability will be available; see enclosure for details. Please confirm your intent to attend this meeting either in person or by telephone with Julie Udell at (313) 226-1305 or by email at [Julie.A.Udell@usace.army.mil](mailto:Julie.A.Udell@usace.army.mil) by March 25, 2009.

The meeting location and hotel information as well as a preliminary agenda for your consideration have been enclosed. Please feel free to contact Marie Strum by telephone at (313) 226-6794 or by email at [Marie.T.Strum@usace.army.mil](mailto:Marie.T.Strum@usace.army.mil) with any comments or suggestions for the draft agenda. Also, please pass this invitation on to colleagues who may be interested. If you are unable to make the meeting in person or by telephone, we encourage you to send us your comments, concerns, or suggestions by telephone or email. Your input is very important to our process. I look forward to meeting with you in April.

For information on Great Lakes Navigation Team meetings and activities, please visit [www.lre.usace.army.mil/greatlakes/navigation](http://www.lre.usace.army.mil/greatlakes/navigation)

Sincerely,

*Michael K O'Bryan*

Michael K. O'Bryan, P.E.

Great Lakes Navigation Business Line Manager